

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany
SUBJECT Parking of Deactivated Column Locomotives

DATE DISTR. 7 December 1954

NO. OF PAGES 2 25X1

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1
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UNCODED

1. Records for the deactivated column locomotives are still carried by RBD Berlin but the ultimate control of these locomotives rests with the GDR Ministry of Railroads. The Ministry also used its authority when the collection points of parking column locomotives were selected. RBD Schwerin for example wished to park the column locomotives assigned to it at Meyenburg and Teterow. This was not approved by the Railroad Minister, which gave orders that the locomotives were to be parked at Strasburg which is outside the area of RBD Schwerin. Meyenburg and Teterow were assigned to RBD Magdeburg as parking sites for deactivated locomotives although RBD Magdeburg had originally planned to have these locomotives within its area. The rejection of this plan was motivated by the fact that the Magdeburg RBD was within the so-called "Bahn-Sperrzone" (restricted zone). The exact meaning of this term has not been determined. 1

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2. The following numbers of locomotives were observed parked at the points mentioned:

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Date in September	Place	Number and Type of Locomotives	Number of Caboose
4	near Ruednitz	about 30 type-52 locomotives	6
2	" Strasburg	" 20 " 50 "	3
3	" Ducherow	" 5 " 50 "	4

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Zone I covered the western portion, Zone II the central portion and Zone III the eastern portion of the GDR. The exact delineation of these security zones has not been determined. It is believed that the establishment of these different security zones is connected with preparations for mobilization. The central control of the deactivated column locomotives permits the assumption that these locomotives would be available, without delay, to the Soviets in the case of an emergency.

2. Comment. The three railroad stations mentioned were also previously used for the parking of the reserve locomotives in locomotive columns.

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